

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STOCKH 00124 111359Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2739

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 0124

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: AMGT, SW
SUBJECT: US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN SWEDEN

REF: 77 STATE 296053

1. THE EMBASSY HAS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE LISTING OF US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR SWEDEN CONTAINED REFTEL AND WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THEM, WITH TWO ADDITIONS (BELOW) WHICH WE HOPE CAN BE AGREED TO READILY BY THE DEPARTMENT.

2. WE REALIZE THE ORDER IN WHICH GOALS AND OBJECTIVES ARE STATED IS NOT MEANT TO INDICATE PRIORITIES. NEVERTHELESS, THE PRESERVATION OF AN INDEPENDENT, NEUTRAL, MILITARILY-STRONG SWEDEN IS THE FUNDAMENTAL US OBJECTIVE HERE AND THE AMBASSADOR, ACCCCORDINGLY, WOULD PREFER THAT THE POSITIONS OF GOALS I AND II BE SWITCHED TO REFLECT MORE ASSUREDLY THIS FACT.

3. THE SUGGESTED ADDITIONS ARE:
(A) UNDER SECTION III, FURTHER SOLIDIFICATION OF OUR RESTORED BILATERAL RELATIONS, INSERT AS THE SECOND TICK OR COURSE OF ACTION:

"-- INCREASE CONTACT WITH SWEDISH TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP, AND STIMULATE A GENUINE DIALOGUE BETWEEN SWEDISH AND AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENTS

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THROUGH INCREASED EXCHANGES OF VISITS."

GIVEN THE VITAL ROLE AND INFLUENCE OF SWEDISH TRADE UNIONISM OVER LABOR MARKET AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS HERE, THE ADDITION IS LOGICAL AND ACCORDS WITH THE AMBASSADOR'S DETERMINATION TO EMPHASIZE, ALONG A BROAD FRONT, THE EMBASSY'S CONTACTS WITH THE SWEDISH LABOR

MARKET;

(B) ADD, AS A SEPARATE FOURTH GOAL:

"IV. IMPROVE ACCURACY OF SWEDISH PERCEPTION OF US
SOCIETY" AND THE FOLLOWING COURSE OF ACTION:

"-- USE PUBLIC DIPLOMACY TO CORRECT SWEDISH
MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE US AND TO INFORM PUBLIC OPINION
AS TO OUR REAL CHARACTER."

THE PORTRAYAL OF US SOCIETY IS ONE OF THE TWO BASIC PURPOSES
BEHIND USIA FUNCTIONING OVERSEAS AND WE BELIEVE THIS GENERAL
RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD BE REFLECTED PROMINENTLY IN ANY LIST
OF US OBJECTIVES IN SWEDEN.

4. CONFIRMATION REQUESTED THAT SUGGESTED ADDITIONS DESCRIBED
ABOVE ARE AGREEABLE TO DEPARTMENT.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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